Coal projects with US help

3487. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and USA had signed a pact for setting up of coal projects in the country;

(b) if so, what are the main coal projects that will be set up in the country;

(c) the names of the States where these coal projectd will be set up;

(d) whether all the conditions imposed by the US Government have been fully agreed upon by Indian Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, what is the total investment to be made by the US Government on the coal projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KIMAR PANJA): (a) During the visit of the Secretary of Energy of the United States of America in July, 1994 a Joint Statement of intent has been signed between the Department of Energy of the United States of America and the Ministry of Coal to cooperate in the field of fossil energy.

(b to (e) These details would become known as and when specific projects are identified.

Capital market to expand mining operations of Singareni Collieries Company Limited

3488. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to tap the capital market to expand mining operations at Singareni Collieries Company Limited (S.C.C.L.) in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the management of S.C.C.L. has proposed expansion and mechanisation of mining operations; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KIMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Central Government do not have any proposal to tap capital market for expansion of mining operations in Singareni Collieries Company Limited in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) and (d) Based on the longterm assessment of demand of coal for the various sectors during 8th Plan period annual plan targets as well as budget allocation are fixed by the Government in respect of coal companies. For 1994-95, coal production target for SCCL has been fixed at 25.60 million tonnes. The corresponding outlay has been fixed at Rs. 483.40 crores which includes provisions for existing mines, new projects, expansion programmes, mechanisation of mining operations etc. The Govt. renders required assistance in implementation of SCCL's schemes in this regard.

Breakdown of crushers at Dudhichua Project of Northern Coalfields Limited

3489. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that both the gyratory crushers in the coal handling plant at Dudhichua project of Northern Coalfields Limited are under breakdown;

(b) whether it is a fact that above two crushers were imported from abroad at a cost of Rs. 12.00 crores and 7.00 crores, respectively and both failed within one and a half years of installation;

(c) if so, the reasons of the failure and the action taken against the suppliers;

(d) whether it is also a fact that similar crushers are being manufactured by heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi; and